

House Resolution 1472

By: Representatives Benfield of the 85th, Butler of the 18th, Buckner of the 76th, Smith of the 70th, Hudson of the 124th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Remembering and honoring the life of Mr. Ben Jones; encouraging Georgians to become
2 organ donors; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Mr. Ben Jones's life was marked by his noble character and devotion to helping
4 his fellow man; and

5 WHEREAS, Mr. Jones was a 2002 graduate of Carrollton High School and was a radiology
6 student at West Central Technical College and Coosa Valley Technical College; and

7 WHEREAS, since high school, Mr. Jones was a volunteer with the Georgia Commission on
8 Women and was a member of the Georgia Osteoporosis Initiative, where for four years he
9 screened thousands of Georgians for osteoporosis at senior centers, hospitals and clinics,
10 health fairs, and other locations; and

11 WHEREAS, he had a special affinity for helping the elderly, always serving them with the
12 utmost patience and compassion; and

13 WHEREAS, Mr. Jones's family and friends will always affectionately remember this
14 extraordinary gentleman for his generosity, kindness, and gentle and loving spirit; and

15 WHEREAS, two years prior to his death, Mr. Jones made a commitment to organ donation,
16 a commitment that has resulted in a chance for a better tomorrow for the recipients of his
17 organs and their families; and

18 WHEREAS, there are nearly 90,000 patients in the United States on the waiting list for organ
19 donations, more than 1,600 of them in Georgia; and

1 WHEREAS, LifeLink of Georgia is an independent nonprofit organ and tissue recovery
2 organization that provides procurement and distribution of organs in Georgia; and

3 WHEREAS, in our state, five medical facilities, Emory University Hospital, Egleston
4 Children's Hospital, Medical College of Georgia, Piedmont Hospital, and St. Joseph's
5 Hospital, perform lifesaving transplants, giving hope to the once hopeless; and

6 WHEREAS, success rates for transplant surgery have vastly improved in recent years, yet
7 sadly many Americans who need transplants die while waiting for a donor; and

8 WHEREAS, the Georgia Humanities Council, in partnership with the Office of the Governor
9 of Georgia, is committed to spreading the message of the importance of organ donation; and

10 WHEREAS, thanks to organ donation, even the most heartbreaking tragedy can give rise to
11 the gift of life, as demonstrated by the example of Mr. Ben Jones, whose willingness to
12 become an organ donor is a lasting testament to this exceptional young man's tremendous
13 generosity.

14 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
15 the members of this body join together to pay tribute to the honorable life of Mr. Ben Jones
16 and extend their most sincere condolences to his family and friends.

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of this body encourage all Georgians to
18 consider becoming organ donors as a way of giving to others the most precious gift of all.

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
20 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the family of Mr. Ben Jones.